

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

5 1. A method for processing a document, comprising:  
providing at least one behavior document including  
processing instructions;  
accepting an incoming document;  
reading a personality document, the personality  
document including behavior document selection instructions for  
10 selecting a behavior document based on the incoming document;  
selecting a behavior document using the personality  
document behavior document selection instructions and the  
incoming document; and  
processing the incoming document according to the  
15 processing instructions in the selected behavior document.

20 2. The method of Claim 1 wherein:  
the personality document is a XML document; and  
the selected behavior document is a XML document.

25 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the selected behavior  
document processing instructions further include incoming  
document to working document translation instructions.

30 4. The method of Claim 3, wherein the selected behavior  
document processing instructions further include:  
working document to outgoing document translation  
instructions; and  
transmitting instructions for transmitting the outgoing  
document via a communication network.

35 5. The method of Claim 1, further comprising transforming  
the incoming document into an incoming software object.

6. The method of Claim 5, wherein the selected behavior  
document processing instructions further include invoking a  
5 document processing software object.

7. A method for processing a document received from a client  
via a communication network, comprising:

providing at least one behavior document including  
10 processing instructions;

providing at least one translation document;

receiving an incoming document from the client via the  
communication network;

reading a personality document, the personality  
15 document including:

behavior document selection instructions for  
selecting a behavior document based on the incoming document; and

translation document selection instructions for  
selecting a translation document based on the incoming document;

20 selecting a translation document using the personality  
document translation document selection instructions and the  
incoming document;

translating the incoming document into a working  
document using the selected translation document;

25 selecting a behavior document using the personality  
document behavior document selection instructions and the  
incoming document; and

processing the working document according to the  
processing instructions in the selected behavior document.

8. The method of Claim 7, wherein the selected behavior  
document processing instructions further include transmitting  
instructions for transmitting the working document via the  
communication network.

9. The method of Claim 7, wherein the selected behavior document processing instructions further include:

5 working document to outgoing document translation instructions; and

transmitting instructions for transmitting the outgoing document via the communication network.

10 10. The method of Claim 7, further comprising transforming the working document into a working software object.

11. The method of Claim 7, further comprising transforming the incoming document into an incoming software object.

15 12. The method of Claim 7, wherein the selected behavior document processing instructions further include invoking a document parser.

20 13. The method of Claim 7 wherein:  
the serving document is a XML document; and  
the selected behavior document is a XML document.

25 14. The method of Claim 7 wherein:  
the incoming document is a XML document;  
the working document is a XML document; and  
the selected translation document is a XSLT document.

30 15. A data processing system adapted to process documents received from a client via a communication network, comprising:  
a processor; and  
a memory operably coupled to the processor and having program instructions stored therein, the processor being operable to execute the program instructions, the program instructions  
35 including:

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personality instructions, the personality instructions including:

5 receiving an incoming document sent by the client via the communications network;

invoking a director, the director containing instructions, the instructions including selecting processing instructions for the incoming document; and

10 invoking a dispatcher, the dispatcher containing instructions, the instructions including processing the incoming document according to the selected processing instructions.

15 16. The data processing system of Claim 15, the processing instructions further including transmitting a document to the client via the communication network.

20 17. The data processing system of Claim 16, the processing instructions further including transmitting a document to a server via the communication network.

18. A data processing system adapted to process a document, comprising:

25 a processor; and

a memory operably coupled to the processor and having program instructions stored therein, the processor being operable to execute the program instructions, the program instructions including:

30 accepting an incoming document;

reading a personality document, the personality document including behavior document selection instructions for selecting a behavior document based on the incoming document, the behavior document including processing instructions;

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selecting a behavior document using the  
personality document behavior document selection instructions and  
5 the incoming document; and

processing the incoming document according to the  
processing instructions in the selected behavior document.

19. The data processing system of Claim 18 wherein:  
10 the personality document is a XML document; and  
the selected behavior document is a XML document.

20. The data processing system of Claim 18, wherein the  
selected behavior document processing instructions further  
15 include incoming document to working document translation  
instructions.

21. The data processing system of Claim 18, wherein the  
selected behavior document processing instructions further  
20 include:

working document to outgoing document translation  
instructions; and

transmitting instructions for transmitting the outgoing  
document via a communication network.

25 22. The data processing system of Claim 18, the program  
instructions further including transforming the incoming document  
into an incoming software object.

30 23. The data processing system of Claim 18, wherein the  
selected behavior document processing instructions further  
include invoking a document parser.

24. A data processing system adapted to process a document  
35 sent from a client via a communication network, comprising:

a processor; and

5 a memory operably coupled to the processor and having  
program instructions stored therein, the processor being operable  
to execute the program instructions, the program instructions  
including:

receiving an incoming document sent by the client  
via the communication network;

10 reading a personality document, the personality  
document including:

behavior document selection instructions for  
selecting a behavior document based on the incoming document, the  
behavior document including processing instructions; and

15 translation document selection instructions  
for selecting a translation document based on the incoming  
document;

20 selecting a translation document using the  
personality document translation document selection instructions  
and the incoming document;

translating the incoming document into a working  
document using the selected translation document;

25 selecting a behavior document using the  
personality document behavior document selection instructions and  
the incoming document; and

processing the working document according to the  
processing instructions in the selected behavior document.

30 25. The data processing system of Claim 24, wherein the  
selected behavior document processing instructions further  
include transmitting instructions for transmitting the working  
document via the communication network.

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26. The data processing system of Claim 24, wherein the  
selected behavior document processing instructions further  
5 include:

working document to outgoing document translation  
instructions; and

transmitting instructions for transmitting the outgoing  
document via the communication network.

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27. The data processing system of Claim 24, the program  
instructions further comprising transforming the working document  
into a working software object.

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28. The data processing system of Claim 24, the program  
instructions further comprising transforming the incoming  
document into an incoming software object.

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29. The data processing system of Claim 24, wherein the  
selected behavior document processing instructions further  
include invoking a document parser.

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30. The data processing system of Claim 24 wherein:  
the serving document is a XML document; and  
the selected behavior document is a XML document.

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31. The data processing system of Claim 24 wherein:  
the incoming document is a XML document;  
the working document is a XML document; and  
the selected translation document is a XSLT document.

32. A computer program product embodying computer program  
instructions for execution by a computer, the computer program  
instructions comprising:

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personality instructions, the personality instructions including:

5 receiving an incoming document sent by the client via the communications network;

invoking a director, the director containing instructions including selecting processing instructions for the incoming document; and

10 invoking a dispatcher, the dispatcher containing instructions including processing the incoming document according to the selected processing instructions.

33. The computer program product of Claim 32, the processing instructions further including transmitting a document to the client via the communication network.

34. The computer program product of Claim 32, the processing instructions further including transmitting a document to a server via the communication network.

35. A computer program product embodying computer program instructions for execution by a computer, the computer program instructions comprising:

25 accepting an incoming document;  
reading a personality document, the personality document including behavior document selection instructions for selecting a behavior document based on the incoming document, the behavior document containing processing instructions;

30 selecting a behavior document using the personality document behavior document selection instructions and the incoming document; and

processing the incoming document according to the processing instructions in the selected behavior document.



36. The computer program product of Claim 35 wherein:  
the personality document is a XML document; and  
5 the selected behavior document is a XML document.

37. The computer program product of Claim 35, wherein the  
selected behavior document processing instructions further  
include incoming document to working document translation  
10 instructions.

38. The computer program product of Claim 35, wherein the  
selected behavior document processing instructions further  
include:

15 working document to outgoing document translation  
instructions; and

transmitting instructions for transmitting the outgoing  
document via a communication network.

20 39. The computer program product of Claim 35, the computer  
program instructions further comprising transforming the incoming  
document into an incoming software object.

40. The computer program product of Claim 35, wherein the  
25 selected behavior document processing instructions further  
include invoking a document parser.

41. A computer program product embodying computer program  
instructions for execution by a computer, the computer program  
30 instructions comprising:

receiving an incoming document sent by the client via  
the communication network;

reading a personality document, the personality  
document including:

behavior document selection instructions for selecting a behavior document based on the incoming document, the behavior document including processing instructions; and

translation document selection instructions for selecting a translation document based on the incoming document;

selecting a translation document using the personality document translation document selection instructions and the incoming document;

translating the incoming document into a working document using the selected translation document;

selecting a behavior document using the personality document behavior document selection instructions and the incoming document; and

processing the working document according to the processing instructions in the selected behavior document.

42. The computer program product of Claim 41, wherein the selected behavior document processing instructions further include transmitting instructions for transmitting the working document via the communication network.

43. The computer program product of Claim 41, wherein the selected behavior document processing instructions further include:

working document to outgoing document translation instructions; and

transmitting instructions for transmitting the outgoing document via the communication network.

44. The computer program product of Claim 41, the computer program instructions further comprising transforming the working document into a working software object.

45. The data processing system of Claim 41, the computer  
program instructions further comprising transforming the incoming  
5 document into an incoming software object.

46. The computer program product of Claim 41, wherein the  
selected behavior document processing instructions further  
include invoking a document parser.

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47. The computer program product of Claim 41 wherein:  
the serving document is a XML document; and  
the selected behavior document is a XML document.

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48. The computer program product of Claim 41 wherein:  
the incoming document is a XML document;  
the working document is a XML document; and  
the selected translation document is a XSLT document.

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